

The Alexandria Gazette

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 26.

Gen. Howard, the Commissioner of the "Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands," gives notice that "Commissioners will be at once appointed for the different insurrectionary States. To them will be entrusted the supervision of abandoned lands, and the control of all subjects relating to refugees and freedmen in their respective districts." He says:

"It will be the object of all commissioners to introduce practicable systems of compensated labor; and to this end, they will endeavor to remove the prejudices of their late masters unwilling to employ their former servants; to correct the false impressions sometimes entertained by the freedmen that they can live without labor; and to overcome that false pride which renders some of the refugees more willing to be supported in idleness than to support themselves. While a generous provision should be made for the aged, infirm, and sick, the able bodied should be encouraged, and, if necessary, compelled to labor for their own support.

THE CONSPIRACY TRIAL.

The trial of the parties implicated in the assassination of President Lincoln was resumed yesterday. Additional witnesses for the prosecution were introduced. The testimony of those who were first examined related to the treatment of Federal prisoners at the South, and had no reference whatever to the acts of the prisoners at the bar. The slaves formerly owned by Dr. Mudd were next put upon the stand. They testified to his having supplied food to a number of persons dressed in grey and black clothes, and who remained in the vicinity of the house for a week during the month of August, sleeping in the woods, but having their horses cared for in Dr. Mudd's stable. This closed the testimony for the prosecution. The examination of the witnesses for the defence was then commenced. By an agreement of counsel the testimony in behalf of Mrs. Surratt was the first introduced. Several Catholic clergymen and persons who had boarded at Mrs. Surratt's house testified as to her character, etc.

The Richmond Whig quotes the article from the new Constitution of Virginia, in relation to the qualification of voters, and says:

"We presume that one of the first official acts of Gov. Peirpoint, after his arrival in Richmond, will be to call an extra session of the newly elected Legislature, for the express and sole purpose of removing, with appropriate provisions, the disability which now disfranchises nine tenths of the voting population of Virginia. This step will be necessary in order that the heretofore disloyal counties may be reorganized and civil government fully restored."

Gen. Gregg, commanding at Lynchburg, Va., has issued an order notifying the negroes that they must work for their livelihood.

The Petersburg, Va., Express says that city is filled with "drummers" from Northern business houses, and that the majority of them are from Baltimore.

The New School Presbyterian General Assembly took the first steps in the "ecclesiastical reconstruction" of the South on Saturday. Three Presbyteries were organized in East Tennessee, of ministers and churches which have maintained their loyalty during the war. They were then constituted into the Loyal Band of Tennessee.

Col. Burton N. Harrison, Jeff. Davis's late private secretary, has been committed to the Old Capitol prison.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Secretary Welles and Mr. Wm. Faxon, Chief Clerk of the Navy Department and others, sailed from the Washington Navy Yard yesterday, for the East and West Gulf Blockading Squadrons on inspection duty.

Yesterday, for the first time since the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, the White House was thrown open to visitors.

Yesterday, President Johnson took possession of the public offices of the Executive Mansion. The President occupies the room on the second floor, east wing of the building, heretofore occupied by the late President Lincoln.

The offices of the various paymasters were crowded yesterday with officers of the armies now encamped around Washington, who are drawing their back pay.

General Custar has been assigned to the command of a new department, formed of the States of Arkansas and Missouri, under Gen. Sheridan.

A social banquet is to be held by the Governors of the several States here, previous to their departure from Washington, as a finale to the grand review. — Wash. Star.

THE CLOAK AND SHAWL OF MR. DAVIS — Yesterday, the cloak and shawl worn by Jeff. Davis at the time of his capture was presented to the War Department by Colonel Pritchard, of the 4th Michigan Cavalry, in the presence of Senators Foot and Wilson, Governor Fenton, Adjutant General Townsend, and others. The cloak was worn as a skirt at the time of his attempt to escape from our cavalry at Irwingsville, Georgia. The shawl was placed over the fugitive's head, in order better to conceal his face and features. Under these articles, he wore a full suit of drab and a pair of cavalry boots.

The Secretary of War, upon receiving the articles, thanked Colonel Pritchard, in the name of the President and people of the U. S., and stated, that as soon as the Colonel's report was handed in, the \$100,000 offered as a reward for the capture of Davis would be divided among those properly entitled to it, and that each soldier engaged would be further rewarded with a medal.

Colonel P. also presented to the Department the flag of the 150th regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, which Jeff. Davis had among his baggage. — [Nat. Int.]

In consequence of heavy rains, there was a freshet in Shockoe Creek, in Richmond, on Monday, and much of the Valley there was overflowed. The trestling bridge over the Big Cacapon, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was washed away by the high water on Sunday last.

We see no confirmation in the Richmond papers of the report that the Court of Arbitration there has been, or is to be, immediately abolished. The Court sits every day.

On Saturday there will be a meeting of the Unionists of Loudoun county, Va., at Leesburg the county town. Governor Swann is expected to be present. The loyal people of Loudoun have nominated a county ticket, the election taking place on the 1st of June.

The American Monroe Doctrine Association has been revived, and is working actively in Memphis.

Rumors at last dates were afloat in London that Sir Frederick Bruce says it is difficult to maintain friendly relations in Washington—but these are mere rumors. The claim for indemnity against the British government for losses by the Alabama, has not been pressed lately.

C. A. Dana, resigns his office of assistant secretary of war to become editor of a Republican Administration journal at Chicago.

Disbanding the Troops.

The Washington Star says: "It is stated that the work of disbanding a large portion of the troops will take place immediately, and that most of them, especially those from the interior of the several States, will deposit their arms in the Arsenal in Washington, where Major Benton has been making preparations for their reception, while the city regiments will generally take their arms to their respective cities, there to place them in the city armories and arsenals. It is understood that none of the troops are to be discharged here except those in hospital, but that the paymasters will proceed to the States, there to make the last payment."

The Army and Navy Journal says: "What will be the size of the future Army of the country? Our own opinion is that, when perfect peace is restored, with Kirby Smith's dominion conquered—even then the army will not fall much, if at all, below 100,000 men. For the present, it will be larger, 125,000, 150,000, 160,000 are the 3 figures, one or the other of which will probably be the original estimate for the new organization. The War Department designs to reduce the army immediately to a basis of from 125,000 to 150,000 men. The muster out process will commence soon after the grand review of next week. At first it will include all men whose terms expire prior to October 31st.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, in his account of Gen. Sherman's short speech, the other night, when he was serenaded, says Gen. Sherman, remarked:

"I want peace and freedom for every man to go where he pleases, to California, or to any other portion of our country, without restriction. Every man should work, and there is plenty of work for every man to do.—Every man should do as he pleases, holding himself accountable to the Government for his acts, and I shall hold myself responsible for my own acts.

[Voice in the crowd—"How about going to Mexico, General?"]

You can go there if you like, and you can go the — if you want to. [Laughter.]

MARINE LIST.

Friday, May 26, 1865.

Arrived—Schooner Robert Kemp, Captain Rolan, from Baltimore, with merchandize to J. Broders & Co.

Schooner W. H. Dawson, Captain Taylor, from Baltimore, with coal to E. McKenzie.

Sailed—Steamer Philadelphia, Capt. Fultz, for Philadelphia, by Flowers & Bowen.

MARRIED.

On Thursday evening, May 25th, by the Rev. Mr. Sprigg, WILLIAM A. LEWIS to AMANDA M., second daughter of S. W. Markell, Esq., all of this place.

At the Methodist Parsonage, 61 Congress street, Georgetown May 25, 1865, at 9 o'clock, by Rev. Daniel Bowers, JOHN W. HILLARY, of Georgetown, and MARY MASEY, of Alexandria county, Va.

DIED.

On Wednesday, 25th of May, JANE HOLINS NICHOLAS, daughter of the late Philip Norborne Nicholas, of Richmond, Va.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.—The Ladies of the Methodist Protestant Church will hold a STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, at Lyceum Hall, corner of Prince and Washington sts., next week, commencing on Monday evening. Doors open every evening at 8 o'clock. Tickets of admittance, 15 cents. my 26—3t

EARTHENWARE, CHINA, GLASSWARE, & CO.

The subscriber will continue the same business heretofore carried on at No. 65, King st., where he offers a good assortment of goods in his line, and solicits a continuance of the custom of the public, and the friends of the old firm. (my 26—eo3m) E. J. MILLER.